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\* Admitted only in Maryland  
\* Admitted only in Virginia  
\* Practice Limited to  
Federal Agencies

May 8, 2006

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**Art Unit 1647**

**Attn: Mail Stop AF**

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. 09/918,589; Filed: July 30, 2001  
For: **Fluorescence Polarization Assays for Screening Binding of Ligands of  
Steroid Hormone Receptors (As Amended)**  
Inventors: Halbleib *et al.*  
Our Ref: 0942.7200001/RWE/CMB

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

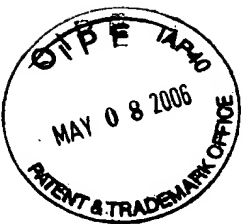
Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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RWE/CMB:krh  
Enclosures

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

HAILBLEIB *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/918,589

Filed: 07/30/2001

For: **Fluorescence Polarization Assays  
for Screening Binding of Ligands  
to Steroid Hormone Receptors (as  
amended)**

Confirmation No.: 2015

Art Unit: 1647

Examiner: Shafer, S.H.

Atty. Docket: 0942.7200001

**Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

*Mail Stop AF*

Commissioner for Patents  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated **February 6, 2006**, Applicants submit the following Remarks.

**Amendments** begin on page **2** of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page **5** of this paper.